**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) today issued the following statement regarding President Obama's nomination of retired Army Major General Robert Harding, former deputy to the Army's chief of intelligence and former director for operations in the Defense Intelligence Agency, as Assistant Secretary of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA):

"I welcome President Obama's nomination of Major General Robert Harding as head of the Transportation Security Administration. TSA is in need of a confident, capable leader who is willing to tackle the agency's many challenges, and I believe Mr. Harding has the potential to be that leader. Mr. Harding will be an indispensible part of our national security team and, as such, I hope the Senate will move quickly to confirm his nomination. In the wake of the thwarted Christmas Day bombing attack, it's more important than ever for TSA to have a leader. I look forward to working with the Major General as we continue our efforts to secure America's transportation systems and airports against potential threats."

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